



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Parks and Recreation
Brochure Enclosed

NOV/DEC 2019
NO. 221

We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

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Councilmember 2nd Ward – Steve Eggert
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann Bolkcom
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Fall Fun: Pumpkin Night in the Park

Over 1,000 glowing pumpkins lined the trails at Springbrook Nature Center on Saturday, October 19, for the annual Pumpkin Night in the Park event! We had a beautiful fall evening for the event and had approximately 3,700 people in attendance.

There were costumed characters, pumpkin carving demos, fire dancers, monster bingo, and delicious concessions. Attendees encountered pirates, dinosaurs, giant spiders and more along the trail. There were also visits from Jack Sparrow and the Ghost Busters!

Thank you to everyone who attended and continues to participate in this great community event. We look forward to seeing you again next year!



Thank you to our volunteers

We could not have made this magical event come to life without the help of our amazing volunteers. Thank you to the individuals, families, troop members and everyone else who donated their time to carving the pumpkins, setting up and taking down the event, coordinating parking, managing bingo and more – all while ensuring everyone had a fantastic time.

Interested in volunteering next year? Please call the Nature Center at 763-572-3588.

City Council Adopts Key Areas of Focus

The Fridley City Council has adopted a new “Focus on Fridley” plan that outlines five specific focus areas for the City and the council to concentrate on going forward. Each focus area supports the City of Fridley’s vision statement: “We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.”

During Council’s goal-setting sessions this past summer, these focus areas were determined to be the highest priority. It is important for the council, staff, residents and business owners to have a shared common focus on key areas of the City to ensure continued growth and prosperity.

Over the next year, we will feature each of the focus areas to discuss their purpose, action items and community

effects. The five focus areas are as follows:

- Community Identity and Relationship Building
- Public Safety and Environmental Stewardship
- Vibrant Neighborhoods and Places
- Financial Stability and Commercial Prosperity
- Organizational Excellence

In our next newsletter, we will be featuring one of the focus areas in greater detail. Additionally, keep your eyes open for videos, interviews, community engagement events, and more that relate to “Focus on Fridley!”





Find Online Updates on the 2020 Census

The City of Fridley’s 2020 Census webpage has been launched! Learn more about the 2020 Census at FridleyMN.gov/2020Census. The webpage will be updated frequently over the next few months with the most up-to-date information and resources about the Census.

The Census webpage includes:

- Why the Census is important and who to count
- Timeline and latest updates
- Videos
- 2020 Census Draft Questionnaire and additional factsheets
- FAQs
- Volunteer and employment opportunities

Commit to be counted! Sign up online to receive reminders about the Census, including when your forms are available to be completed.

The next Census is April 1, 2020 — mark your calendars! Completing the Census is your civic duty. Help us to ensure a complete count in Fridley!



Looking for New Ways to Reduce Waste?

Did you know? On average, Americans throw away 25 percent more trash during the Thanksgiving to New Year's holiday period than any other time of the year. The extra waste amounts to 25 million tons of garbage, or about 1 million extra tons per week! Now is a great time to get started in the curbside organics program.

This program allows you to recycle all of your organic waste. Participating households are reducing their trash by 400-600 pounds per year, which is adding up to tons citywide! It works very similarly to traditional recycling: place all of your food scraps, paper towels, leftovers, certified compostable plateware and more in a compostable bag in your kitchen. When the bag is full, put it in the organics recycling cart. Set out the organics recycling cart on Wednesdays, and it will be picked up curbside right from your home!

It is VERY EASY to participate in this program - give it a try! It feels so good to have our garbage down to less than a bag a week! You absolutely can make a difference in making our world healthier by doing this.
— Jill, Fridley Organics Recycling participant

round or if you are not able to turn the compost yourself. Backyard composting is still a good option for recycling fruit and vegetable scraps into a soil amendment you can use at home.

I have a garbage disposal, how is this program beneficial to me?

Putting food down the garbage disposal places strain on the sanitary sewer system and can lead to clogs. Solids from the waste water treatment process must still be land disposed after treatment.

How much does organics recycling cost?

This program is offered to Fridley residents through Republic Services for \$10 a month, which includes free compostable bags, kitchen pail, the organics recycling cart, and weekly organics collection.

How is organics recycling paid for?

The program is paid for through subscriber fees and with SCORE grant funds the City receives to help achieve our recycling goal. Our recycling goal is 210 pounds per person, so participants in the organics program are doing an awesome job in helping us reach that goal!

How do you sign up?

Sign up and learn more at FridleyMN.gov/organics or call 763-572-3594. **Sign up by November 30 and get a free month of collection on your second billing cycle.**

Fridley Community Calendar

November

- 4 Charter Commission
- 4 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 7 Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- 11 City offices closed for Veterans’ Day
- 12 City Council
- 12 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 20 Planning Commission
- 25 City Council
- 28 & 29 City offices closed for Thanksgiving

December

- 2 Parks and Recreation Commission
- 5 Housing & Redevelopment Authority
- 9 City Council
- 10 Environmental Quality & Energy
- 18 Planning Commission
- 23 City Council
- 25 City offices closed for Christmas Day

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.

RECYCLING DROP-OFF: HOLIDAY EDITION

Recycling: the Pumpkin Process

November 1 - 13
Springbrook Nature Center Parking Lot

Instead of throwing your pumpkin in the garbage, recycle it with the City of Fridley! You can bring your pumpkin to the pumpkin recycling dumpster at Springbrook Nature Center’s parking lot (100 85th Avenue) from November 1-13. These collected pumpkins will be transformed into compost, a rich additive for soil that is used in gardening and on construction sites. Since this program started in 2017, Fridley residents have recycled over four tons of pumpkins!

Recycling your old or broken holiday lights!

December 2 - January 17
Fridley Civic Campus

Holiday lights cannot be recycled curbside, but you can drop off tangled and broken holiday lights for recycling at the Fridley Civic Campus (7071 University Avenue NE). Lights will be collected from December 2 - January 17 at the front desk.

Questions? Call 763-572-3594 or email recycling@FridleyMN.gov.



New Things in Town: Development Updates



Former Godfather’s Pizza - Now Total Construction Solutions

The former Godfather’s Pizza location (7910 University Avenue) has been purchased and the building totally reinvented to serve the needs of its new owner, Total Construction Solutions Company. It is great to see the building being reused. The changes that have been made to the exterior create a fresh new appearance along the University Avenue Corridor.

Best wishes to Total Construction Solutions Company. We wish you many years of success. Thank you for choosing Fridley!

Lennar Townhomes

The Fridley HRA and Lennar Homes have closed on the sale/purchase of the property and Lennar is very excited to get their first models in the ground. There will be one Carriage and one Colonial building to begin with.



Colonial

The colonial units will be backed to the water feature on the civic campus and the first block of carriage units will face west, towards the park feature. The carriage and colonial units will serve as a great first impression as you enter the development and will allow a variety of models per building.

University Avenue Corridor

With all the great input from citizens and businesses, City staff have continued discussion with the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s Area Manager and Regional Engineer.

Major portions of the chain link fence will be removed and will allow a much cleaner, more groomed appearance along the corridor. In other areas where the boulevard is tight or where there are opportunities to take out or narrow frontage roads, the City has held three neighborhood meetings to gain input from residents. The following areas were discussed:

- Short segment between 66th and 67th avenues NE (east of University and north of Walgreens)
- Frontage road on west side of University Avenue, north of Holly Center
- Segment west of University Avenue, north of 61st Avenue

Feedback from these meetings will help guide the decision for future buffers/fences in those areas.

In areas that will keep a buffer, there is an option to upgrade to a modern black-coated chain link product. Median and perimeter landscape solutions are also being evaluated to address image and identity issues.

Train Station Village

As of late September, construction preparation has begun at the Train Station Village project site at Main Street and 61st Avenue. This project is done entirely through the City’s and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority’s approval processes.

The developer needs to close on the purchase of the site, and then the project will begin. The start date has been delayed due to another project the developer must complete prior to closing.

The first part of the construction will be to recreate the parking for the Metro Transit Northstar station. This parking will be closest to the Northstar platform at the northwest corner of the site. From there, construction of the first two of three buildings will also be under way.



Former Fridley Municipal Center Site Ebenezer Senior Housing

Frattalone Company has completed the demolition of the former Municipal Center. Construction of the

134-unit senior complex by Ebenezer, an affiliate of Fairview, can now begin.

If you are interested in learning more about the senior housing, contact Beth Voss at 612-874-3432 or bvoss2@Fairview.org.



Northern Stacks VIII

Hyde Development has made significant progress on completion of its Northern Stacks VIII Building at 5101 Industrial Blvd. NE.

The building is 176,500 square feet. The minimum space available to lease within the complex is 25,000 square feet. The best recommendation for those interested would be to contact Eric Batiza, Colliers International, at eric.batiza@colliers.com.



Photo Courtesy of Roberts-Hamilton Co.

Fridley Park of Commerce – John Allen

Roberts-Hamilton Co. is described on their website as a full line residential and industrial plumbing wholesale distributor in Minnesota.

The company now occupies 75,000 square feet of the Fridley Park of Commerce, Building II. The City of Fridley is very pleased to welcome Roberts-Hamilton Co. to the City. We look forward to having you as part of Fridley’s vibrant business community!



Snow and Ice Control in Fridley

Fridley Public Works makes safe, effective and efficient snow removal a top priority. Our 24-person snow removal team works long hours after every snowfall, but we still need your help to clear roads as quickly and safely as possible.

The City of Fridley plows 112 miles of city streets, 80 cul-de-sacs, 18 alleyways and dead-ends, 17 parking lots and about 32 miles of sidewalks and trails. Learn more about our process and frequently asked questions below.

Which streets are plowed first?

Our priority routes (redlines) are cleared first after any snowfall. Redlines are routes identified by Public Safety and Public Works to ensure emergency vehicles can get within one or two blocks of every home in the city. During a routine snow event, it takes approximately 2 to 4 hours to clear these routes. To see the redline routes in your area, what district you are in, and what your district starting points are, visit FridleyMN.gov/SnowRemoval.

After the redlines are cleared, our local routes are plowed with rotating starting points. Fridley is split into 12 districts, and each district has four different starting points. Each time there is a snowfall, the plows begin at a different starting point within each district. If your area was last to be plowed in the previous event, it will not be last the next citywide plowing. Plowing the districts takes approximately 6-8 hours during routine snow events.

How about trails and walks?

We plow virtually all City trails and walks, and many County trail segments so that you can walk in the winter. Trails and walks are plowed via two routes. For heavier snow events, trail and walk plowing may be delayed a day or two behind street plowing. A priority is placed on plowing near schools. Additional plowing is often required continuing days after snow events as County and State plowing may recover trails. When walks and trails are completed, the City assists the Metropolitan Council and MnDOT by removing snow from bus stops on state, county, and local roads.

When do you plow?

By City policy, plows will go out after two or more inches of snow accumulation, following the end of a snowfall. This can change depending on the type of snow and the rate it is falling. For example, if we have a snowfall of less than two inches but the snow will freeze overnight and create a great amount of de-icing after the fact, we will most likely go out and plow.

Typically, plows will begin clearing the redlines around 3:30-4:30 a.m. following a snowfall. If there is continuous snow that accumulated, they may begin the night before and plow again in the early morning. Our goal with normal snowfalls is to clear main roadways (redlines) in time for the morning

commute. Of course, timing, amount, and type of snowfall, as well as preceding and future conditions, all factor into scheduling and type of response for plowing and de-icing.

Our Public Works staff will also be using an anti-ice trailer for the first time this year. This trailer will allow staff to spray a diluted brine mixture on the road before a projected snowfall to prevent ice from forming, which reduces the amount of road salt needed after the snowfall event.

What if my mailbox was damaged or knocked over?

If your mailbox is hit by a plow, please call our Public Works main line at 763-572-3566. If it was damaged or knocked over by the plow blade, we will replace it or reimburse you. We encourage you to inspect your street side mailbox and post before the snow season to make sure it will hold up to thrown snow and avoid disruption in your mail delivery.

Snowplow safety tips:

- Call 511 or visit 511mn.org before leaving on your trip to get current road conditions. Plan for longer trip times during and after storms.
- Turn on your headlights, wear your seat belt, and avoid distractions and devices when driving.
- Slow down! Conditions require more space for you to stop.
- Never drive into a snow cloud.
- Do not stand or allow children to play near the roadway when a snowplow is approaching.
- Give plow operators a lot of room; they must turn, stop, and back up frequently.

Why is snow plowed into my driveway?

The angle of our snowplow blades is fixed to the right to plow snow from the centerline of the street to the curb. When there is an opening, such as a driveway, some of the snow is released into that area. It is the resident's responsibility to remove the snow at the end of the driveway. The snow should not be pushed across or into the street or neighboring yard. You can be a good neighbor by finding a place to locate snow within your property. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining clear, safe streets in our community!

If you have an unusual amount of snow or large portions of ice pushed into your driveway, please call Public Works at 763-572-3566.

Where should I put my trash and recycling bins?

Trash and recycling bins should be placed in the area within the end of your driveway. We ask that you

refrain from putting your bins in the street or sidewalk route. When you place them in the street or within the sidewalk, it slows the plows down and creates a hazard they must navigate around. Plows can be much safer and more efficient when the bins go within the end of your driveway. If a walk or trail is adjacent to the curb, please place your bin just behind the curb at your driveway.

Why can't cars be parked on the street from November - April?

Due to the size of our plows and their equipment, it is very difficult to navigate around obstacles in the roadway. Vehicles left in the street prevent our plows from removing snow to the curb line which results in large snow piles deposited in the road. These piles can quickly freeze, creating a hazard and inconvenience for other vehicles. This also limits snow storage for future storms, which can compromise roadway safety during exceptionally snowy winters.

The City Code prohibits vehicles from parking on City streets during snow removal operations. Vehicles left on the street may be ticketed and towed, which can cost you \$45 for the ticket and over \$200 for each calendar day the vehicle is in the tow lot. If certain vehicles are repeatedly ticketed, fees may increase.

What is the City doing to reduce chloride pollution?

Road salt, or chlorides, are a known pollutant that can permanently impact our waterbodies, leading to decreased freshwater fish populations and salty-tasting drinking water. The City is committed to decreasing the amount of chlorides applied to our roads, while still maintaining safe driving conditions.

Last year, the City received a grant from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization to purchase brine application systems for some of our plow trucks. The brine application systems allow the City to use "pre-wetted" salt, which works faster than dry salt and does not bounce outside of the application zone, allowing the City to use less salt more effectively. Over the next few years, the rest of our fleet will add this equipment and transition to the brine system as vehicles are scheduled for replacement.

The City also installed electronic application systems which will allow the drivers to better control how much salt is applied. It is expected these improvements will allow the City to reduce salt use by at least 30 percent. Our snowplow drivers are Level 1 Smart-Salting certified by the MPCA and our department is Level 2 Smart-Salting certified.

You, too, can make a difference in reducing chlorides in our water bodies by doing your part to minimize salt usage or using salt substitutes. Tips are available by visiting FridleyMN.gov/Stormwater.

Smart Salting this Winter

Did you know one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water forever? Salt and deicers contain chlorides, which can enter our waterways as snow and ice melt. Springbrook Creek is already listed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as vulnerable to chloride contamination, and other Fridley waterbodies are close behind. Chloride contamination can kill fish and plants as well as give a salty-taste to drinking water. If you use salt during the winter, please follow these smart salting tips from our partners at the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization:

- 1) More salt does not equal faster melting — just more pollution and wasted money. Shoot for a 3-inch spread between salt granules. For \$10–\$20, a hand spreader can make the job easier and more

accurate. To be more exact, try to apply no more than one pound per 250 square feet of pavement. (Tip: A regular-size coffee mug typically holds about 1 pound of salt.).

- 2) If you must apply salt or a deicer, clear off any loose and/or compacted snow first. Apply the product on ice only; do not apply it on dry pavement. Temperatures often drop after a snowstorm, so double-check the label on your salt or deicer product to make sure it will work before you apply it (rock salt does not work below 15°F). You can use the table below from the MWMO to check the lowest pavement temperature different deicers will work.
- 3) Sweep away any extra salt once the ice is gone to keep it from washing into the stormsewers.

Melting Agent	Lowest Melting Temp.	Things to Know
Urea	20 degrees F	Promotes algae growth in waterways; over-application can harm plants; slow-acting; relatively pet safe
Sodium Chloride (NaCl)	15 degrees F	Harmful to plants; harmful to concrete; very corrosive to metal, cheap and abundant
Magnesium Chloride (MgCl2)	-10 degrees F	Harmful to plants, corrosive to metal, relatively high cost
Potassium Acetate (KAc)	-15 degrees	Can cause surface slickness; lowers oxygen levels in waterways; biodegradable, relatively high cost
Calcium Chloride (CaCl2)	-20 degrees F	Corrosive to metal; leaves slimy residue; less harmful to concrete
Sand	No melting	Provides traction only; potential pollutant; can be swept up and re-used



5 Winter Driving Tips for a Safer Commute

- 1. Before you head out, check the news for weather conditions to determine if travel is safe.
- 2. Check road/traffic conditions before you head out with MnDOT 511 and take the safest route.
- 3. Brush all the snow off of your vehicle and make sure all of these apply:
 - a. You have full visibility out of your windows.
 - b. Headlights and tail lights are cleared to allow other motorists to see you.
 - c. Top of your car, hood and trunk are cleared so there is no snow blowing off your car to distract you and other drivers.
- 4. Increase following distances between your car and the car in front of you.
- 5. Slow down. The speed limit is the maximum speed of travel. Adjust your speed accordingly on icy or snow-covered roads.

For more information about driving safety tips, go to mnsafetycouncil.org. To find out road conditions, go to dot.state.mn.us or 511mn.org.

Year of Energy: Reducing Energy Use in Rentals

2019 is the year of energy! Each newsletter issue will include ideas to help you save money on your energy bill and reduce energy consumption. For this issue, we are highlighting energy conservation at multi-family buildings.

Typical energy conservation programs are geared toward property owners, but what if you rent? Depending on your situation, it may be difficult to make necessary changes to impact your energy bill, but there are options. Here are some easy to implement tips that you can do on your own in order to reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

1. Manage your temperature

You can save as much as 10 percent a year on heating and cooling by simply turning your thermostat back 7°-10°F for 8 hours a day from its normal setting. Consider investing in a smart thermostat to control your thermostat from a mobile device. Visit XcelEnergyStore.com to receive a \$75 instant rebate on your new smart thermostat.

2. Reduce hot water waste

Hot water use can be a big culprit of year-round high energy bills. Try three tips to lower your water heating bill:

- Switch to high-efficiency showerheads and faucet aerators to cut down on hot water waste. You can order these for free from CenterPoint Energy’s online market place www.energyfederation.org/centerpoint_energy_ar.
- Wash your clothes in cold water whenever possible.
- If accessible, adjust the temperature on your hot water heater to a lower setting.

3. Liven up your lighting

Visit xcelenergy.com/LightingDeals to find participating stores which offer Xcel Energy discounts of up to \$3 on select LED bulbs. LED lights typically use 70 to 90 percent less energy than the traditional incandescent bulbs they replace.

Property owners

Do you own a rental property in Fridley? Check out the Multi-Family Building Efficiency program for free replacement of light bulbs, free HVAC inspection and a full building energy audit, implementation support and customized incentives and more. Sign up for this free, no commitment program at MultiFamilyEnergySolutions.com.



2019 Veterans Day Program: The Gopher Gunners in WWI – The Making of a Regiment

Back by many requests, speaker Mr. Johannes Allert will discuss the “Gopher Gunners” of World War I. The 151st Field Artillery Regiment was the only Minnesota Regiment to serve overseas in World War I. Mr. Allert will highlight the Regiment’s commander and some men under his command.

Friday, November 8 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Fridley Community Center – Room 112/114/116
Cost: \$2 (Veterans are free.)

Holiday Theft Protection Tips

Unfortunately, package and mail thefts increase around the holidays. Thieves know online shopping and deliveries will be on the rise this time of year. Here are some tips for your package deliveries:

- Require a signature on deliveries.
- Have packages delivered to an area out of sight from the street.



- Set up a delivery alert so you know when your package arrives (sign up for Informed Delivery with the US Postal Service—it is free!).
- Have packages held at the post office or stores for pick-up or sent to a trusted neighbor who will collect your deliveries if you are away.
- Never mail cash or gift cards! They are nearly impossible to trace once they are stolen from your mail.

Are you a Black Friday shopper? Here are some tips to keep in mind while you are out shopping:

- Do not post on social media that you are out shopping.
- Do not carry a purse. They are easily snatched when you are distracted while shopping or out at lunch.
- Take necessary money/credit cards and a driver’s license and place them in your front pants pocket.

- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk.
- If you bring a load of purchases to your car, move your vehicle to a new parking spot.

Do not forget to protect your property at home once all the gifts have been opened:

- Do not leave presents or packages visible from the front door or windows. Unfortunately, there are plenty of Grinches around looking for opportunities to make your stuff theirs.
- Break down all boxes before putting them out with your trash. Large boxes at the curb advertise new items inside your house.
- Write down serial numbers of electronics and inventory expensive items in case they are ever stolen. Taking pictures of serial numbers and storing them in your cloud or other electronic storage space is an easy way to keep your information readily available.

Sign up for our 2020 Citizens’ Academy!

The 2020 Citizens’ Academy is now open for registration! The course will begin Tuesday, April 7 and run for eight weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 p.m. Citizens’ Academy is designed to educate community members of the inner workings of the Fridley Police Department. The program offers insights into how police officers perform their duties and how the department serves the community.

Some of the topics covered include the K9 Unit, Constitutional Law, Use of Force, Patrol Procedures, Crime Prevention and more! If you are interested in joining the program, you can submit an interest form at FridleyPublicSafety.org/CitizensAcademy.

Questions? Contact Sergeant Titus at 763-502-1916 or visit FridleyMN.gov/academy to register.



Holiday Safety Reminder

DWI’s increase during holiday weekends. Always plan a sober ride. That can be having a friend drive you home, utilizing Uber, Lyft or other driving service, or choosing to be the sober driver. All of these options are less dangerous than driving drunk and less expensive than a DWI.

Sanitary Sewer Pipe Lining Project

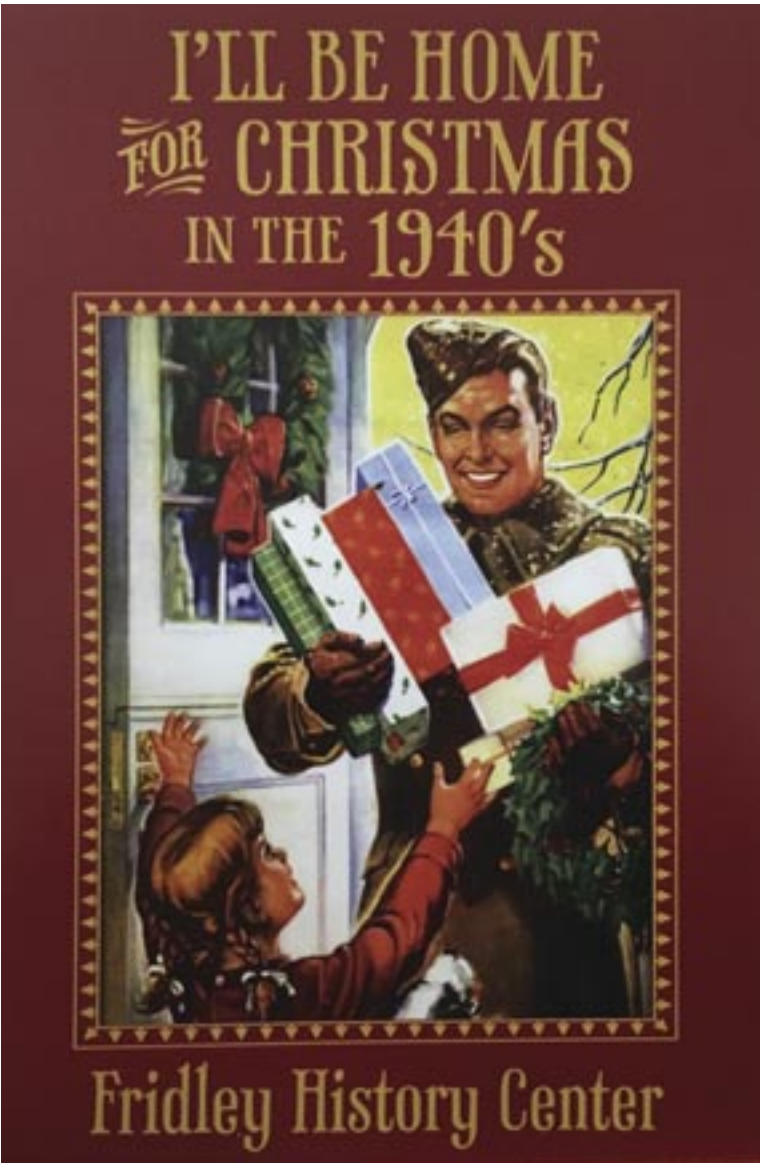
The City of Fridley recently rehabilitated over 9,600 feet of sanitary sewer main using trenchless technology. The project included six separate areas across the City, with the shortest section being less than 200 feet in length and the longest being over a mile. These projects are essential in maintaining the current sanitary sewer for the City and to address existing inflow and infiltration issues which develop over time with aging infrastructure. Pipe lining is a cost-effective method of preserving the structural integrity and flow characteristics of sanitary and storm sewers without replacing the entire pipe and structures.

Grand Opening of Fridley Historical Society Military Exhibit

You are invited to the grand opening of the military exhibit at the Fridley History Center (611 Mississippi St NE) on Saturday, November 23 at 11 a.m. The Fridley Historical Society extends a special invitation to all Fridley servicemen and women, past and present.

Following the opening ceremony of the military exhibit in the upper level area, head down to the lower level and enjoy the “I’ll be Home for the (1940s) Christmas” exhibit. Relax on the home front, warm up by the fireplace, watch “White Christmas” and check out the styles, music and artifacts of that decade. There will be treats and beverages for all!

The exhibit will be open 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from November 23 – December 15.





Where to Skate in Fridley

Did you know the City of Fridley creates and maintains the general skating rinks and hockey rinks throughout the city? Ice skating is a great way to spend time outside with family and friends! Use the rinks as an opportunity to brush up on your skills, learn to skate, play a pick-up game or to just have fun!

We need about 10 consecutive days of freezing temps in order to create safe and usable ice – a 3 to 4 inch even layer. Warm weather, freezing rain and even snow can slow the process, but we will get those rinks ready as soon as possible.

Hours are weekdays 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.; weekends, and school-out days 12:00 - 9:00 p.m.; and Holidays (Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day) from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Cold Weather Guidelines

As a general guideline, we suggest cancelling outdoor activities if temperatures fall below 10 degrees Fahrenheit or there is a wind chill of -25 degrees.

Sledding Hill – If you are looking for a great place to bring the sleds – try out Commons Park! The sledding hill is located just beyond the playground and picnic shelter.

Explore Springbrook Nature Center – Snowshoe Style!

Come explore Springbrook Nature Center by snowshoe! They are available for rent at Springbrook Nature Center in a variety of youth and adult sizes. Rental is \$5 per pair, and they can be used for up to two hours.

Note: We do require a 3” base of snow cover before renting snowshoes.

Location	General	Hockey
Briardale Park: 6171 Rice Creek Dr.	✖	
Commons Park: 555 - 61st Avenue NE		✖ (2)
Flanery Park: 1487 Onondaga Street		✖
Hackmann Park: 1071 Hackmann Circle	✖	
Hayes Elementary*: 615 Mississippi Street	✖	✖
Logan Park: 155 Logan Parkway	✖	
Madsen Park: 7358 - 73rd Avenue	✖	✖
Ruth Circle Park: 9160 Ashton Avenue	✖	✖
Sylvan Hills: 6205 Jupiter Dr	✖	

** Due to construction at Hayes, the rinks may be removed from this location.*



Looking to give back during the holiday season? Adopt a hydrant!

When it comes to fighting fires, seconds save lives. Did you know a fire can double in size every minute? You can make a difference by adopting a fire hydrant in your community. It is easy to register for and maintain. Fire hydrants must be:

- Cleared of snow 3 feet to the left and right of the hydrant
- Cleared of snow to the street

This allows firefighters to quickly reach the water source and fight the fire. If a hydrant is not cleared, firefighters spend valuable time shoveling snow to be able to hook up their hose. If you want to make a big difference with minimal effort, here’s two easy steps:

1. **Register to adopt a hydrant in your area.** Fill out a registration form online at FridleyMN.gov/hydrant or during business hours, call 763-572-3613.

2. **Keep your hydrant clear each time it snows.** If you are already clearing your sidewalk or driveway, make a quick trip over to your hydrant and clear that, too!



Cozy Up with a Good Book!

Fall is in the air! And sometimes, it feels nice to cozy up with a good book. Fridley has two Anoka County Library branches with easy accessibility – the Mississippi Library and the Northtown Library. If you have a tablet or digital reading device, you can utilize the library without ever leaving your home! Here are a few ways to use their services:

- 1. Look online** – Log into your account on anokacounty.us/library using your library card information to look at available materials.
- 2. Register for a card** – If you do not currently have a library card, you can sign up for one in person at one of Anoka County’s libraries by visiting the service desk. You just need to bring identification showing your current address. You can also apply online for a card at anokacounty.us/library.
- 3. Mobile app** – Download the free app on your smartphone or tablet. You can look at the catalog, download eBooks and more.
- 4. Reserve a book** – Planning ahead for a specific book? Reserve a book online or on the app!



Audubon Christmas Bird Count at Springbrook Nature Center

For the 120th year, volunteers from across the country will participate in the National Audubon Society’s Christmas Bird Count for the North Minneapolis Circle. It will be held on Saturday, December 21, at Springbrook Nature Center. Participants will meet at Springbrook and be placed into small groups. Each group will be given a map of an area to count birds.

The Audubon bird count includes a number of individual bird species, as well as the total number of birds within each species. People with less experience will be placed with more experienced birders. Birds will be observed from cars and by walking through parks and open land.

Everyone will return the Nature Center for a hot potluck lunch and to report what species have been seen. After lunch, those who would like to stay for the full day will go back out to their areas for the afternoon to continue counting.

All are welcome, regardless of experience. This is a fun group with many regular and new people every year. This activity will take place regardless of weather conditions. Please be sure to dress appropriately.

Note: Binoculars and warm clothes to fit the weather when walking trails and off-trail are important.

Register: Call the Nature Center at 763-572-3588.



Feature your home or garden in our annual tour!

In July 2020, the Fridley Historical Society, City of Fridley and the Anoka County Historical Society will be hosting the third annual Home and Garden Tour. Attendees visit homes in the community as well as beautiful gardens along the way. At some stops, homeowners are available to chat about how they created their unique spaces. The event is a great way for people to learn more about the history of Fridley, as well as get ideas for their homes!

This year, we are seeking homeowners who would like to feature their home or garden (or both!) in the 2020 Home & Garden Tour. The tentative date for the event is July 19, 2020. If you or someone you know would be a good candidate for a tour stop, please contact Dorothy Gargaro, Chair of City History, at 763-792-1080. Please leave a message with your name, address and phone number, and that you are interested in participating in the tour.

Update: Springbrook Pavilion Activity Center

Construction is underway on the Springbrook Nature Center Pavilion Activity Center, scheduled to open spring of 2020! With help from many generous donors and community partners, this new amenity will serve Springbrook visitors by providing the perfect place for family gatherings, community meetings, classes, activities or a quick break after a hike on the nature trails.

Work on the concrete foundation is already underway, with the construction of the building expected to take place in October. Over the winter months, finishing touches such as furnishings, paint and plumbing work will be completed. We look forward to making this exciting new feature at Springbrook Nature Center available to the Fridley community!

Thanks to our donors and community partners:

- Fridley Lions Club
- McGough Construction Co.
- J.J. Taylor Distributing Company of MN Inc.
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Springbrook Nature Center Foundation
- Park Construction Co.
- Parsons Technologies
- Total Aire, Inc.
- Vision Woodworking
- Bolton & Menk

Winter Parking in Effect November 1 – April 1

Friendly reminder: Fridley does not declare snow emergencies. From November 1 through April 1, however, it is a violation to park any vehicle on city streets between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

It is a violation to stop, park or leave standing a vehicle in such a manner as to impede the plowing or removal of snow, ice or waste from public streets or highways regardless of date or time.

Violators will be tagged and towed, and subject to storage charges.

Fridley City Code, Chapter 506.05